

**SURF Break** | February 2025



## A Message from SURF's President...

As we all adjust to the evolving landscape of sustainability, I am looking forward to seeing how SURFers will rise to the challenge. While SURF is a non-partisan organization, the changing political climate is already bringing new dynamics that influence our work. I have no doubt that we will remain resilient and continue to make significant strides toward a world that is healthy, resilient, and improved by remediating degraded environmental conditions through sustainable practices.

Over the past two years, SURF has continued supporting our mission by hosting collaborative webinars, supporting conference attendance, developing technical initiatives, and strengthening our connections. This year, we have exciting opportunities on the horizon that will further our impact.

I want to extend my thanks to the outgoing board members, Gerlinde Wolf, Katie Elich, and Jay Smith, for their incredible contributions. At the same time, I am excited to welcome our new board members, Sylvia Rathmell, Julia Vidonish, and Kevin Morris, who bring fresh perspectives and enthusiasm to our team.

If you have any questions about getting more involved or are ready to make a difference, please feel free to reach out to me directly. Your continued support of SURF is deeply appreciated, and I am eager to continue advancing our mission together.

– Paige Molzahn, President (Jacobs)



Dive In! Wildfire Impacts on Water Quality and Biogeochemistry

ACS Publications has released a special issue of the latest research discoveries on the environmental impacts of wildfires. Additional articles will be added to the collection while the peer-review process is completed. All articles are open access for a limited time and are sourced from the journal portfolio of *Environmental Science & Technology*. Here's a sampling:

- Wildfires Influence Mercury Transport, Methylation, and Bioaccumulation in Headwater Streams of the Pacific Northwest (click <u>here</u>)
- Effects of Large-Scale Wildfires on the Redistribution of Radionuclides in the Chornobyl River System (click <u>here</u>)
- Substantial Mercury Releases and Local Deposition from Permafrost Peatland Wildfires in Southwestern Alaska (click <u>here</u>)

To access other articles in the issue, click <u>here</u>.



# Did You Know? Volunteer Coalition Re-Creates EJScreen Tool and Others

If you've tried to access the EPA's environmental justice mapping and screening tool (EJScreen) this month, you've seen the message: "Sorry, but this web page does not exist." The EPA removed this tool from its website this month. But fear not. Public Environmental Data Partners (PEDP), a voluntary coalition, is hosting an unofficial copy of EJScreen and other tools that are no

longer publicly available. The organization is committed to preserving and providing public access to federal environmental data. Because that's a big task, some of the tools, including EJScreen, do not have full functionality yet. Visit their website (click <a href="here">here</a>) to access tools, nominate data to preserve, volunteer to help, or donate to the cause.

## **Upcoming Events**

#### **SURF Events**

AEHS West Coast Conference: 34th Annual International Conference on Soil, Water, Energy, and Air

It sure seems like March 18th is **SURF DAY** at the AEHS West Coast Conference! In one day, SURF will be hosting two technical sessions and a SURF meeting. **That's SIX HOURS in ONE DAY!** 

Join us! For more information or to register, click here.

#### **Other Conferences**

AquaConSoil 2025
June 16-20, 2025
Liège, Belgium
For more information, click bore

For more information, click <u>here</u>.